

Independent

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Caretaker PM vows to conduct free, fair general elections

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has vowed to conduct free and fair elections, ensuring no organizational or institutional involvement in favor of any party.

In an exclusive interview with foreign media, he said we are entering into the electoral process and the time span, which has been given to the interim government, is according to the law and the constitution.

The Prime Minister said delimitation of constituencies is a constitutional demand, and we should abide by this regulation if we believe in supremacy of the constitution.

To a question about 9th May incidents, he said

people have the right to express their sentiments under prescribed law, but we can't allow vandalism in the name of protest or if people are going violent then that kind of situation is not acceptable under any democratic system.

Regarding alleged US involvement in PTI Chief's ousting from the power, he said PTI members have retrieved from that allegation. He said in some Asian states, political leaders sometimes do such acts for populist reasons. He said as a responsible caretaker government, we ensure that no one can meddle with our domestic affairs. He further said the PTI chief was ousted constitutionally and there was no military coup against him.

Shedding light on the civil-military relations in Pakistan, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said Pakistani political leaders had political alliance with military for their own political interests and once they are out of the power they start criticizing the institution to shift the onus of their own failure.

He said the only institution that has the organizational capability left with us is military and anyone who is dealing with governance has to rely on it to meet the challenges.

Talking about terrorist attacks and relations with Afghanistan, the Prime Minister said we have been facing such attacks almost for fifteen years and we are trying to counter it by ki-

netic and non-kinetic measures and we have been successful to manage that to a certain level.

He said we are dealing with different layers of authorities in Afghanistan and some are spoiling the peace. He said some banned organizations like TTP have training camps in Afghanistan, which is a point of concern for us. He expressed hope that we will engage with Afghans despite some challenges in our relationships as it is in common interest of both the nations.

On domestic politics, the Prime Minister said political differences shouldn't be converted into enmities as this practice leads to the death of the democracy.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori addressing Pakistan Climate Change Conference 2023 at Governor House.



LONDON: A delegation of prominent British Pakistani businessmen call on the caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

COAS expresses deep respect for Christian community, stressed for greater interfaith harmony

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir Monday expressed deep respect for Christian community and stressed upon the need for promoting greater interfaith harmony in society in order to follow Quaid's true vision of a united and progressive Pakistan.

Moderator and President Bishops (Church of Pakistan and Bishop of Raiwind) Dr. Azad Marshall along with 13 members' delegation of Christian Community called on the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) here at Gen-

eral Headquarters, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, religious and inter-faith harmony were discussed. The COAS lauded the contributions of Pakistani Christian Community in national development, including promotion of quality education, healthcare and philanthropic services and outstanding role played by them for the defence of the motherland.

The Army Chief emphasised, "Islam is a religion of peace and there is no space for intolerance

and extremism in Islam and society. No one can be allowed to take law in his own hands in a civilised society".

The Christian Community members acknowledged Pakistan Army's efforts in combating terrorism and providing secure environment to the minorities in the country.

They appreciated Army Chief's gesture as an inspiration for Pakistani minorities to take greater and more active part in nation building and in restoring their faith in a cohesive and tolerant society.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed exchanging views with Donald Blome, US Ambassador to Pakistan during meeting held in Islamabad.

SHC orders to block passport, identity card of Hammad in Baldia factory case

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has ordered to block passport, national identity card and bank accounts of Hammad Siddiqui nominated in Baldia factory tragedy.

The case on the matter of return of absconding accused in 3 cases including Baldia factory tragedy came up for hearing before SHC Monday. Federal interior secretary appeared in the court. During the hearing of the case, the court expressed annoyance over lack of efforts for bringing absconding accused to Pakistan. The court questioned from federal interior secretary what steps were taken for bringing Hammad Siddiqui to Pakistan. Interior secretary told the court Hammad Siddiqui has left Abu Dhabi since 2017.

Justice KK Agha remarked Hammad Siddiqui had left Abu Dhabi before starting trial of court.

Interior secretary said Hammad Siddiqui had left Pakistan in 2013.

The court questioned were the passport and national identity card of Hammad Siddiqui blocked.

Interior secretary said the period of Hammad Siddiqui passport has expired. The court ordered for blocking passport national identity cards and closing bank accounts of Hammad Siddiqui, Taqi Haider Shah and Khurram Nisar. The court ordered that the details of last landing in Pakistan by Hammad Siddiqui be presented. The court summoned report about absconding accused Taqi Haider and Khurram Nisar besides details of absconding and proclaimed offenders of the province from prosecutor general.

The court issued show cause notice to secretary foreign affairs for not appearing in the court.

NAB submits 15 more references in AC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has submitted fifteen more references to the accountability court after examining the legal details.

The Registrar of the Accountability Court and NAB Prosecutor appeared in the court of Judge Muhammad Bashir and informed the court about the legal aspects of the references. After checking the legal aspects, the judge issued to the parties of references.

Watchman of house killed mother, son and three bodies in well

KARACHI (Online): Watchman of house has killed mother and son in Nazimabad.

According to policemen, dead bodies of mother and son have been found from well inside the house in Mujahid Colony, Nazimabad who have been strangled to death.

Police said that when the incident was investigated, the watchman of the house was found involved in the murder who strangled both of them to death and threw the bodies into the well.

According to police, watchman was arrested and he identified dead bodies during investigation and after that recovered the bodies from well.

Date will not be given, only decisions will be made: CJP

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has made it clear on the lawyers that date will not be given in the cases now and only decisions will be made. The CJP has reprimanded the lawyer as well.

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by the CJP rejected the plea for giving date in land dispute.

The CJP remarked now remove this concept from your mind that they will go to SC and obtain date. This message is for all of others through you that the

tendency for getting date will not run now. The number of pending cases in court is too much high. There should be notice on one date and arguments on next date here. In other courts it happens so that date is given for presenting any document. When some case comes in SC its all documents are complete.

The CJP further remarked give the arguments in one language. Improve your Urdu or English.

The court while giving this order adjourned the hearing of the case.

Overseas Pakistanis need to avail investment opportunities in Pakistan, says PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday invited the overseas Pakistanis to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the government for investment in Pakistan.

During a meeting with a delegation of prominent British Pakistani businessmen which called on him in London, the prime minister invited the diaspora businessmen to invest, especially in Special Economic Zones, to contribute to Pakistan's economic recovery. The prime minister highlighted positive economic indicators resulting

from reforms pursued by the interim government, including a strengthening Pak. Rupee, reduced inflation, and expected economic growth.

The removal of import restrictions and efforts to restore the business community's confidence are expected to further boost external accounts, he added. PM Kakar spoke about Pakistan's investment-friendly approach, mentioning incentives and ease-of-business reforms. He introduced the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to streamline investment in key sectors through a single-window platform.

Formal consent of ECP may be sought to commence KSCP: Haris Nawaz

Independent Report

KARACHI: Caretaker Home Minister Brigadier Haris Nawaz has issued directives to the law enforcement agencies to evolve a joint strategy to speed up intelligence-based operations against lawbreakers including street criminals, drug dealers/paddlers, land grabbers; and comb out illegal immigrants from the city. He was presiding over a meeting with Senior Police Officers at Karachi Police Office here today. The meeting was attended by Addl. IGP Karachi, Zonal DIGs, DIG CIA, SSP AVCC, SSPAVLC and District SSPs of Karachi. He

reviewed the ongoing ground-level action against the organized crimes, drug trafficking and combing operations against illegal immigrants especially the Afghan nationals illegally residing in the city and involved in suspicious/criminal activities.

Haris Nawaz said that a lot of good work has been done against organized crimes and drugs by the LEAs. He, however, stressed on the need to further intensify the vigil against anti-social and criminal elements. The Home Minister also ordered the senior police officers to visit police stations in their respective districts.

Justice Baqar directs audit of 'varieties, orders holding of Senate meetings

KARACHI (INP): Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (rtd) Maqbool Baqar has directed the University & Board department and Higher Education Commission (HEC), Sindh to conduct an audit of all the public sector universities and direct them to establish their pension fund for timely payment of pensions to their retiring or to be retired employees. "I am surprised that nine public sector universities have not held their Senate meeting in the last eight to nine years and they must be taken to task and their senate meeting be held at the earliest."

He issued these directives while presiding over a meeting of the Universities and Boards Dept and provincial Higher Education Commission here at the CM

House. The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Dr. Fakhre Alam, Chairman HEC Prof Tariq Raffi, PSCM Hassan Naqi, Secretary Finance Kazim Jatoi, Secretary U&B Noor Mohammad Samo, and others.

HEC: The Chairman HEC told the interim CM that Sindh HEC was established in 2013 with a mandate to promote and improve higher education, research, and development in the Sindh Province.

The provincial HEC mainly focuses on faculty development; improving access; promoting excellence in learning and research; governance and management; enhancing quality assessment, monitoring & evaluation, and physical technological infrastructure development.

The important programs of the HEC were the Research Support Program, M.Phil, Ph.D Scholarship Program, Laboratory Strengthening Program, and Smart Classroom program.

To a question, CM was told that there were 27 universities in the public sector in the province, of them nine have not held their Senate meetings in the last eight years. At this, the CM said that the Senate was an Apex body of the universities, and their Senate body passed their budgets. It was also pointed out that most of the public sector universities were running huge losses due to financial management. At this, the CM directed the Secretary U&B to conduct an audit of all the universities through well-recognized and recognized auditors.



RAWALPINDI: Moderator and President Bishops (Church of Pakistan and Bishop of Raiwind) Dr. Azad Marshall along with 13 members' delegation of Christian Community called on the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir at General Headquarters.

Khawar Maneka arrested while trying to escape to Dubai

LAHORE (Online): Immigration has arrested Khawar Maneka from Airport.

He was going to Dubai by Emirates Airline.

According to sources, Khawar Maneka was stopped at Allama Iqbal International Airport because his name was included in Exit Control List.

A case is registered against Khawar Maneka by Anti-Corruption.

On the other hand, according to spokesperson of Anti-Corruption Establishment Punjab, Khawar Maneka has been arrested on the charge of illegal construction on government land.

IHC orders to shift chairman PTI from Attock jail to Adiala jail

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Justice (CJ) Islamabad High Court (IHC) has remarked chairman PTI is under trial prisoner and under trial prisoners are kept in Adiala Jail and why then Chairman PTI has been kept in Attock jail.

During hearing of the petition filed by chairman PTI related to facilities in jail and his shifting from district jail Attock to Adiala jail, the CJ IHC inquired from Additional Attorney General (AAG) that chairman PTI is under trial prisoner in cipher case. All the under trial prisoners of Islamabad are in Adiala jail.

The CJ IHC remarked chairman PTI be shifted to Adiala jail. Former Prime Minister (PM) should not be kept deprived of facilities under victimization.

The CJ IHC while ordering to provide all facilities under jail manual in jail to chairman PTI arrested in

he was taken to police station cantt and then Sialkot jail.

Father of Imran Riaz Khan filed application in Lahore High Court (LHC) that his son was kidnapped. The kidnapping case of Imran Riaz Khan was registered in civil lines police station under the report of his father.

Chief Justice (CJ) Lahore High Court (LHC) Amir Ali Bhatti took up for hearing the petition filed by father of Imran Riaz Khan on September 20 which was filed against unknown persons and police under section 365 of FIR.

Imran Riaz Khan was flying to Muscat from Sialkot international airport when FIA arrested him and handed over him to police.

Following his arrest

he was taken to police station cantt and then Sialkot jail.

Following his arrest



ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed chairing a meeting of National Price Monitoring Committee to review the prices of essential commodities.

Punjab CM inaugurates road built from plastic waste in Lahore

Independent Report
LAHORE: In a record-breaking development for Punjab, Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi inaugurated the first-ever plastic road in the province today. The historic inauguration took place on Zafar Ali Plastic Road, stretching from Gymkhana Mall Road to Jail Road. Chief Minister Naqvi meticulously examined the quality and construction of this innovative road, accompanied by a detailed briefing on its utility by the Secretary of Communication and Works and esteemed professors from the University of Engineering and Technology Lahore. Commending the technical expertise and invaluable support provided by UET professors in the creation of this plastic road, Chief Minister Naqvi expressed his appreciation. Addressing the media, he underscored the success of this pioneering venture and revealed plans to expand its scope. Following a thorough one-month review of the existing plastic road, further expansions are on the horizon, including the transformation of Mall Road into a plastic road.

One of the key advantages of a plastic road lies in its resilience against rainwater, ensuring a lifespan of a minimum of 10 years. Unlike conventional roads, these innovative constructions are not susceptible to rain-induced damage. Moreover, the financial outlay for constructing a plastic road has been significantly reduced, with this project amounting to Rs 2 crore as opposed to the standard Rs 6 crore for a regular road. A crucial environmental benefit is that the plastic used in these roads is sourced from recycled materials, effectively repurposing plastic waste that would otherwise contribute to environmental pollution. This eco-friendly approach to road construction not only minimizes costs but also serves as a sustainable solution.



LARKANA: Heirs of Lutuf Magsi are holding protest demonstration for demanding recovery of Lutuf Magsi, who was missing four days ago in the limits of Hyderi Police Station, at SSP Chowk in Larkana.

Provincial ministers lead strategic meeting to address anti-smog

Independent Report
LAHORE: An essential meeting convened at the Civil Secretariat, presided over by Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce SM Tanveer, meticulously assessed the closure and descaling of factories in relation to anti-smog efforts. In attendance were Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Provincial Minister Bilal Afzal, along with the Secretary and DG of the Environment Protection Department, DG of Industries, and pertinent officials. Notably, the meeting also saw the presence of Patron-in-Chief of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Sheikhupura, Manzoor Malik, alongside industrialists Mardan Ali, Amjad Khan, and others. Emphasizing the government's duty to furnish a clean environment for its citizens, Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce SM Tanveer articulated the need for formulating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to mitigate environmental pollution, thereby enhancing transparency in governance.

Theatre play "Social Pagal" & "The Father" presented

KARACHI (Online): On the 16th day of the ongoing Pakistan Theatre Festival in Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, the Theatre plays "Social Pagal" and "The Father" were presented in Urdu language, the writer and director of Theatre Social Pagal, was Shah Fahad, in the cast of the play. Sarmad Aftab, Sherbanu Rahmani, Gulshan Majeed, Hassan Raza, Mishal Chaudhry, Zain Qazi, Haris Ahmad Khan and Mohammad Ghazi Abid, etc. Drama takes viewers through the journey of six psychopaths who confront their demons in prison as they are confined to an obscure realm where life imprisonment is considered the cure for their insanity, a battle of wits ensues and theatre play "The Father" is written by Florian Zeller and directed by Zeeshan Haidar. The cast of the drama included Ghulam Mohiuddin, Abdul Rehman, Alina Gulzar, Saima, Zobi and Owais.



LAHORE: Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman addressing the ceremony on the eve of Mehfil-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) at Governor House.

Life of Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) beacon of light for entire mankind: Baligh

Independent Report
LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman attended a ceremony on the theme of "Building Islamic Society in the Light of teachings of Prophet Muhammad SAW" at Governor House Lahore today. Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman while addressing the ceremony said that the Uswa Hasana of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is a source of salvation and guidance for us. He said that Allah sent the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a mercy for all mankind. Love for Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) is an integral part of our faith, he added. Governor Punjab said that when the Arabs were passing through the age of ignorance, he gave them the message of Allah and enlightened them with the teachings of Islam.

Court orders to release 12 year-old girl on bail

PESHAWAR (INP): Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Monday ordered to release 12-year-old girl on bail. The 12-year-old girl is facing murder charges. She is accused of killing a man named Gohar Ali while cutting fodder in Buner, five months ago. The girl's bail plea was filed in the PHC as she is underage. The court was pleased to release the 12-year-old on bail, which was accepted. It is to be noted that both the parties had registered cases against each other after the incident. Separately in 2021, a judicial magistrate granted bail to six teenage suspects held for allegedly harassing female students.

PFA unearths unit producing fabricated milk

Independent Report
LAHORE: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has lodged a First Information Report (FIR) against Mujahid Zubair Dairy on account of adulteration in the nearest police station during a raid in Roshan Bhela, Kasur. PFA Director General Raja Jahangir Anwar said that acting on the tip of, a dairy safety team of PFA Kasur raided a fake milk production unit and caught the adulteration mafia red-handed producing fabricated milk with hazardous chemicals and other ingredients. He said that the raiding team took milk samples on the spot and found contamination of vegetable oil, whey powder, polluted water and chemicals. The raiding team discarded a huge quantity of substandard milk, 50kg powder and 48kg ghee besides confiscating a vehicle, 11 drums, mixing machines and other goods during the raid, he added. PFA DG appreciated the raiding team for taking timely action against enemies of public health and ruined their unholy ambitions. He said that adulterated milk was to be supplied to different local milk shops in Lahore. He further said that the use of substandard adulterated milk poses a threat to users' health and causes severe problems like stomach, intestine, food poisoning and gastrointestinal complications. Raja Jahangir said that the Punjab Food Authority is bringing an international-style policy for the supply of pure milk.

Nawabzada Nasarullah 20th anniversary on Sep 26

MUZAFFARGARH (APP): The 20th anniversary of the great politician known as father of democracy, Nawabzada Nasarullah Khan will be marked on September 26 (Tuesday). Nawabzada Nasarullah's relentless 70-year-long struggle for the supremacy of the constitution, parliament, and democracy remains an enduring legacy. Distinguished religious scholar Moulana Syed Kafeel Ahmed Shah Bukhari will grace the occasion. He will address the audiences, comprising political and social leaders, along with representatives from various sectors of society. The 20th-anniversary ceremony is set to take place at 5 pm at Marhaba Marriage Hall in his hometown, Khangarh. Moulana Syed Kafeel Ahmad Shah Bukhari, the grandson of Moulana Shah Ahmad Noorani Bukhari, will deliver an insightful speech, shedding light on the importance of democracy and unity in the nation. This event stands as a symbol of unity, bringing together leaders from different political parties across Pakistan.



HYDERABAD: Security officials are standing high alert to avoid untoward incident during the Shiite procession of Chup-Tazia on the occasion of 8th Rabi-ul-Awwal every year to commemorate the death of Hazrat Imam Hasan al-Askari (R.A), in Hyderabad.

International News

Azerbaijani and Turkish leaders hold talks, eye land corridor via Armenia

Monitoring Desk
BAKU: Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev hosted talks on Monday with his Turkish counterpart Tayyip Erdogan at which he hinted at the prospect of creating a land corridor between their two countries via Armenia, which opposes the idea. Erdogan pointedly flew into Azerbaijan's autonomous Nakhchevan exclave, a strip of territory nestled between Armenia, Iran and Turkey that Ankara and Baku want to link up with rump Azerbaijan by carving out a land corridor that would run through southern Armenia. Aliyev in 2021 threatened to create such a corridor - that would create a contiguous land bridge between close allies Turkey and Azerbaijan and deprive Armenia of a land border with Iran - "whether Armenia likes it or not." The symbolic choice of location for Monday's talks, less than a week after Azerbaijani forces swept into Nagorno-Karabakh to retake control of the breakaway region, is likely to worry the authorities in Armenia, who have in the past rejected such a land corridor while being theoretically open to restoring severed road and rail links. At a joint news conference at which neither man took any questions, President Aliyev lamented that Soviet-era authorities had deemed part of what he said should have been territory belonging to the Azerbaijani Soviet republic as land belonging to the Armenian Soviet republic. "The land link between the main part of Azerbaijan and Nakhchivan (the exclave) was thus cut off," complained Aliyev. An influential telegram channel linked to Karabakh Armenians called "Republic of Artsakh" said Aliyev's words looked ominous. "The new target of Azerbaijan and Turkey is Syunik (a province in southern Armenia through which such a corridor would pass). They are already openly declaring it. Active preparations for war are underway," it said.



Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev attend a welcoming ceremony in Nakhchivan, Azerbaijan.

EU commissioner calls for more balanced trade with China & warns that Ukraine could divide them

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: The European Union's trade commissioner called for a more balanced economic relationship with China on Monday, noting an EU trade deficit of nearly 400 billion euros (\$425 billion), while also warning that China's position on the war in Ukraine could endanger its relationship with Europe. Valdis Dombrovskis, in a speech at China's prestigious Tsinghua University, said that the EU and China face significant political and economic headwinds that could cause them to drift apart. "The strongest, yet not the only, headwind is Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and how China positions itself on this issue," he said. Dombrovskis spoke before high-level economic and trade talks with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng. EU leaders have expressed concern about the bloc's growing trade deficit with China, which reached 396 billion euros last year. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen recently announced an investigation into Chinese subsidies to electric vehicle makers, saying a flood of cheaper Chinese cars is distorting the European market.

Ukraine targets a key Crimean city a day after striking Russia's Black Sea Fleet headquarters

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine launched another missile attack on Sevastopol on the occupied Crimean Peninsula, a Russian-installed official said, a day after an attack on the headquarters of Russia's Black Sea Fleet that left a serviceman missing and the main building smoldering. Sevastopol was put under an air raid alert for about an hour after debris from intercepted missiles fell near a pier. Gov. Mikhail Razvozhayev wrote on the messaging app Telegram. He later added that another missile fragment fell in a park in northern Sevastopol, parts of which had to be cordoned off. Ferry traffic in the area was also halted and later resumed. Loud blasts were also heard near Vilne in northern Crimea, followed by rising clouds of smoke, according to a pro-Ukraine Telegram news channel that reports on developments on the peninsula. Crimea, illegally annexed by Russia in 2014, has been a frequent target for Ukrainian forces since Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Ukraine's intelligence chief, Kyrylo Budanov, told Voice of America on Saturday that at least nine people were killed and 16 others wounded as a result of Kyiv's attack on the Black Sea Fleet on Friday. He claimed that Alexander Romanchuk, a Russian general commanding forces along the key southeastern front line, was "in a very serious condition" following the attack.



Jasminka Dzumhur, Erik Mose and Pablo de Greiff, members of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, attend a news confer.



Migrants walk along razor wire looking for a place to cross the Rio Grande river, near the US-Mexico border.

Canadian Sikh group urges followers to protest outside Indian embassies

Monitoring Desk
OTOWA: A Canadian Sikh group has called on its members to protest outside the Indian diplomatic missions of main Canadian cities on Monday, a week after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau raised the prospect of New Delhi's involvement in the murder of a Sikh separatist leader in British Columbia. Trudeau said last week Canada was pursuing "credible allegations" that Indian government agents may be linked to the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who was shot dead outside a Sikh temple on June 18 in Surrey, a Vancouver suburb with a high Sikh population. India swiftly denied any role in the killing and described the allegations as "absurd". The accusations have sparked tensions between the two countries, with each nation expelling diplomats, and New Delhi suspending visas for Canadians. Jatinder Singh Grewal, a director for Sikh for Justice in Canada, told Reuters on Sunday that his organisation will lead the demonstrations outside the Indian embassies and consulates in Toronto.

Alligator killed after Florida woman's body found in jaws

Monitoring Desk
MIAMI: An alligator was killed as it was removed from a creek in the US state of Florida along with a 41-year-old woman's body, officials said on Saturday. Police said they had responded to a report of a body seen in the creek in Largo, Florida, and that the 13-foot, 8.5-inch (4-metre) male alligator was "humanely killed" on Friday. Officers identified the body on Saturday, but said "the manner and cause of death is pending," and that the investigation was ongoing. Witness Jamarcus Bullard told US media that he saw a big alligator and a body in the creek, and ran to a nearby fire station to report it. "I threw a rock at the gator, just to see if it was like really a gator," Bullard told WFLA-TV, an NBC News affiliate, on Friday. "It pulled the body, like it was holding on to the lower part of the torso, and just pulled it under the water." Bullard said the alligator put up a strong fight against authorities.

Iran says it defused 30 bombs in Tehran, detained 28 people, Tasnim reports

Monitoring Desk
DUBAI: Authorities in Iran have neutralised 30 bombs meant to go off simultaneously in Tehran and detained 28 terrorists linked to Islamic State, Iran's Tasnim news agency reported on Sunday, citing the intelligence ministry. "Some of the members are of Islamic State (IS) and the perpetrators have a history of being affiliated with Takfiri groups in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Kurdistan region of Iraq," Iran's intelligence ministry added in a statement. The militant group has claimed several attacks in Iran, including deadly twin bombings in 2017 that targeted Iran's parliament and the tomb of the Islamic Republic's founder, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. More recently, IS claimed responsibility for an attack on a Shia shrine last October, where 15 people were killed in the southwestern city of Shiraz.

Italian PM admits she hoped to do 'better' on migration

Monitoring Desk
ROME: Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has admitted she had hoped to do "better" on controlling irregular migration, which has surged since her far-right party won historic elections a year ago. "Clearly we hoped for better on immigration, where we worked so hard," she said in an interview marking the win, broadcast late on Saturday on the TG1 channel. "The results are not what we hoped to see. It is certainly a very complex problem.

Four dead as gunmen battle police in Kosovo monastery siege

Monitoring Desk
MITROVICA: Gunmen in armoured vehicles stormed a village in an ethnic Serbian-majority region of Kosovo on Sunday, battling police and barricading themselves in a monastery in a resurgence of violence in the restive north. Kosovo police said one officer and three of about 30 attackers died in shootouts around the village of Banjska. Monks and pilgrims were locked in the Serbian Orthodox monastery's temple as the siege raged for hours. Ethnic Albanians form the vast majority of the 1.8 million population of Kosovo, a former province of Serbia. But some 50,000 Serbs form the majority in the north, where clashes in May injured dozens of protesters and Nato alliance peacekeepers. The Serbs have never accepted Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence and still see Belgrade as their capital more than two decades after a Kosovo Albanian guerrilla uprising against repressive Serbian rule. It was unclear who was behind Sunday's violence, but Kosovo's Prime Minister Albin Kurti and Interior Minister Xhelal Sveclla blamed "Serbia-sponsored criminals".

Mauritania conference Ashrafi calls for interfaith dialogue to combat blasphemy and promote peace

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Ulama Council Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi invited all faith leaders for interfaith dialogues to remove differences as burgeoning incidents of blasphemy were promoting an environment of hatred in the community of nations.

Addressing the 36th annual International Conference on Serat in Mauritania the other day, he said to overcome the menace of Islamophobia was not only the responsibility of Muslims proposing that all faith leaders should come forward and devise a combined strategy to meet the disgraceful acts being occurred worldwide from time to time.

The conference, attended by delegates from 65 Islamic countries, included the Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani and Muslim World League Secretary-General Dr. Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa.

Ashrafi who is also the President of International Interfaith Harmony Council categorically stated that the Holy Prophet Muhammad Peace Be upon

Him was not only the blessing for Muslim Ummah but also for the entire world.

He said the solution of Palestine and Kashmir issues was in the unity and solidarity of Muslim Ummah.

He said Pakistan was a nation of various faiths and sects but it was facing extremism and terrorism for a long time.

"The Pakistani nation was against all extremist and terrorist elements and standing by its security institutions and armed forces through thick and thin," he maintained.

Ashrafi said Islam gave the lesson of respect to all celestial books expressing his dismay over the indecent drive against the Muslims sacred sanctities and values. He said Islamophobia was endangering the peace of the world urging the international human rights watchdogs to legislate against it to maintain peace and tranquility.

He opined that those who desecrated the Holy Quran in Sweden and Denmark and made caricatures of the Holy Prophet Muhammad Peace Be upon

Upon Him must be given exemplary punishment as it would help pave the way to create an enabling environment of interfaith dialogue in the world.

Ashrafi said the way Muslim World League had given the message of peace in the "Charter of Makkah al Mukkaramah", in the same way, the Ulama and Mashaykh of Pakistan had given a clear-cut religious decree against the extremism and terrorism in the "Message of Pakistan".

Talking to Arab media after the conference, he said Palestine and Kashmir were the issues of Muslim Ummah and it would like to resolve them with peaceful dialogues.

He said the brutalities of Israel in Palestine and India's in Kashmir were not acceptable at all costs.

Ashrafi said the Muslim world appreciated productive leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman expressing the hope that they would further play their proactive role in the resolution of Palestine and Kashmir issues.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Guest of the event Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani performing traditional Arabic Dance along with Ambassador of KSA to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malkiy and others during the celebrations of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at local hotel in Federal Capital.

PM urges British fashion firm to open buying house in Pakistan

LONDON (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday, highlighting Pakistan's pro-investment policies and facilities, urged the UK-based Boohoo Group to consider opening buying houses in Pakistan.

The prime minister, in a meeting with leading British businessman and co-founder and Executive Chairman of Boohoo Group Abdullah Kamani, emphasised the advantages of investment in Pakistan and extended an invitation to Boohoo Group to send a buying delegation to Pakistan for enhanced collaboration.

In the meeting, Kamani expressed keen interest in establishing long-term buying linkages with Pakistan and the ambition to create a comprehensive supply chain in the country, encompassing organic cotton to apparel production. They also hoped for improved Pakistan-UK air connectivity to facilitate increased imports from Pakistan. Prime Minister Kakar conveyed Pakistan's commitment to facilitating investment and offered support in establishing manufacturing facilities within the country, particularly within Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

US Envoy calls on Planning Minister

ISLAMABAD (Online): US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Monday called on the Caretaker Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed and discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries. During the meeting, the Planning Minister appreciated the support that Pakistan has received from the United States in the field of development cooperation, bilateral trade and investment promotion. The two sides also exchanged views on matters of common interest and expressed their resolve to enhance and strengthen bilateral relations.

KP CM approves Rs300,000 for treatment of journalist Zafar Wazir

PESHAWAR (INP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Caretaker Chief Minister Azam Khan on Monday gave approval of three hundred thousand rupees for the treatment of ailing journalist Zafar Wazir.

The Interim Chief Minister approved the financial assistance for the medical treatment of the journalist, hailing from Wana, on the request of Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi.

EU releases €1 million in humanitarian aid to respond to monsoon floods

ISLAMABAD (APP): The EU has released an additional €1 million in humanitarian aid to respond to the floods that have affected Pakistan in the past weeks, which have directly or indirectly affected some 900,000 people.

The funding will help address the most pressing needs of vulnerable people in the provinces of Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), as the areas hit the hardest, said a news release.

Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarcic, said: "One year after the tragic floods that caused tremendous suffering in Pakistan, the EU remains committed to helping those most in need. As a new rain season has again displaced thousands of people in parts of the country, this additional EU funding will help support vulnerable communities as they try to recover their former lives."

Transfer agreement signing of Ex-TARIQ TO FOCI, UK held in London

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Transfer Agreement Signing Ceremony for the ex-Pakistan Navy Ship TARIQ to Falls of Clyde International (FOCI), UK took place at the Pakistan High Commission in London on Monday.

This ship, formerly decommissioned by the Pakistan Navy on August 4, 2023, has been donated by the Government of Pakistan to FOCI for conversion into a floating museum. It will be displayed at the Clyde Maritime Heritage Center in Glasgow, symbolizing the common naval heritage shared by the Royal Navy and the Pakistan Navy, according to a press release received here.

The Transfer Agreement Signing Ceremony was witnessed by Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi NI (M) S Bt, Chief of the Naval Staff of the Pakistan Navy as the Chief Guest, and Admiral Lord Alan West who was the Guest of Honour at the event. Besides, the ceremony was attended by David O'Neill, Director of FOCI, veterans from the Royal Navy, and representatives of the Pakistani community in the UK.

During his address to the audience, Chief of Naval Staff expressed confidence that the donation of TARIQ to FOCI would further strengthen the bonds of friendship between the UK and Pakistan, with the ship continuing to symbolize the shared maritime history of our respective navies in the years ahead.

Speaking on the occasion, Admiral Lord Alan West said "The close relationship between the UK and Pakistan, and the UK are clearly shown by this historic agreement focused on one ship that fought and represented each country over many years."

The history of ex-PNS TARIQ is noteworthy, having served in the Royal Navy as HMS AMB-BUSCADE for 18 years, including during the Falklands War, before being integrated into the Pakistan Navy as PNS TARIQ in 1993. Over the course of more than three decades in the Pakistan Navy, the ship earned a reputation for its versatility, agility, and readiness in combat. Notably, it played a crucial role in a Search and Rescue mission during the 2005 Indian Ocean Tsunami in the Maldives, saving the lives of 377 tourists from various nationalities.



KARACHI: Canadian High Commissioner Leslie Scanlon meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House.

Planning Minister asks provinces to go after hoarders, profiteers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Monday chaired a meeting of the National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) to review the prices of essential commodities, directing the quarters concerned to maintain food prices and provide relief to the common man.

The minister emphasized zero-tolerance against hoarders and profiteers, directing the provincial governments to engage their respective Commissions, Deputy Commissioners and Magistrates against the elements involved in hoarders, a news release said.

Among others, the meeting was attended by the Chief Statistician from the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), representatives from all provinces, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Ministry of Food Security & Industries, and other relevant stakeholders. During the meeting, the PBS officials presented the price and inflation data, while representatives from Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan apprised the forum on the current production and supply of wheat, sugar and other essential commodities, which remained satisfactory.

The meeting decided that the PBS would give access to its App to the provinces so that prices could be monitored and controlled effectively. It also highlighted the importance of minimizing the price difference between wholesale and retail items and directed the relevant stakeholders to reduce this difference to maximize relief for the common man.



DADU: Umme Rubab Chandio is talking to media persons after court case hearing in famous triple Mehar murder case by Model Trial Court, in Dadu.

IHC reserves judgment on plea for in-camera hearing of chairman PTI bail petition

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has reserved judgment on the plea of special prosecutors for in camera hearing of chairman PTI bail petition in cipher case.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC remarked decision will be given in this regard after seeing the record of case.

The counsel said the entire nation is fixing its eyes on this bail plea.

The CJ IHC said smilingly now live streaming of the courts hearing will be conducted and the entire world will see hearing.

Chairman PTI bail plea in cipher case came up for hearing before CJ IHC Monday.

Barrister Suleman Safdar appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

Special prosecutors Shah Khawar and Zulfiqar Abbas Naqvi appeared in the court taking the plea in cipher case is being tried under official secret act.

Former Prime Minister (PM) and former foreign minister were arrested in the case. Owing to sensitivity of the case it was decided that there will be in-camera proceedings in the trial.

When the counsel of the petitioner completes his arguments then I will want to make in camera submissions before the court.

Barrister Suleman Safdar said that not the sensitivity of case but security concerns have been said to be the reasons of jail trial.

The CJ IHC remarked let me see the record then we will settle how we have to run this case.

Sher Afzal Marwat advocate said the entire nation is setting its eyes on this case.

The CJ IHC remarked smilingly now live streaming of court's proceeding will be done and the whole world will see the proceedings.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interfaith Affairs Aneeq Ahmed addressing during the exhibition of calligraphy artworks in Centaurus Mall.

Kundi says: Siraj should not misguide masses for sake of 'publicity'

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday lashed out at Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Emir Sirajul Haq.

In a reaction to the press talk of Mr Haq, Mr Kundi said: "Sirajul Haq should not misguide the masses for the sake of cheap publicity stunts. Sirajul Haq needs to have information of the negotiations made by the PPP with independent power producers (IPPs)."

"If the PPP had not reached an agreement with the IPPs, the country would have been dragged into a quagmire today," Mr Kundi added.

Mr Kundi stated: "During the tenure of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Sirajul Haq was the senior minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)."

"The country's economy would have been strengthened if the industrial zones were established," Mr Kundi said.

Earlier today, JI Emir Sirajul Haq fired a fresh broadside at the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and PTI.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Mr Haq asserted: "The Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) leaders had waived their cases. The PTI government had vowed to end poverty and create an opportunity of 50,000 jobs in the country."

Mr Haq took a jibe at former finance minister Ishaq Dar, saying, "Ishaq Dar had made claims of controlling the rate of the greenback against the rupee."

Minister directs NRA to observe month of Rabi ul Awwal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindh Monday ordered Chairman National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Authority to organize month long continuous events to observe holy month of Rabi ul Awwal.

He made these directions while visiting the National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Authority here.

During the visit, he also met the authority's Chairman Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem.

Madad Ali Sindh said the authority's mandate was critical for nation building. The minister said that the Pakistani nation was facing challenges that could only be addressed by the authority. He said that intolerance was rampant in our society and the true message of peace and love of Islam needed to be promoted in the country.

Father, minor daughter shot dead over personal grudge

KARACHI (INP): Two including father and minor daughter were killed while woman survived narrowly in firing of armed men over personal grudge here on Monday, police said.

According to details, two armed men opened straight fire at motorcycle riding couple in Korangi area of Karachi.

As a result of firing, Tahir Zaman and his two-year-old daughter were killed while his wife narrowly escaped in the firing.

The attackers fled the scene of crime. The bodies were shifted to hospital for postmortem.

Police said that no looting or snatching was witnessed during the incident and the firing was outcome of personal grudge.

CWDP clears 2 development projects including FIA's operational improvement

ISLAMABAD (APP): Planning Commission (PC) Deputy Chairman Dr Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan on Monday chaired a meeting of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) that cleared two development projects worth Rs 2.42 billion. Among others, the meeting was attended by the Chief Economist, Members Planning Commission and representatives from the various ministries, a news release said.

The forum cleared Programme for Flood Response through Reconstruction of Education Facilities in Sindh worth Rs1,566.628m and Operational Improvement of Federal Investigation Agency in AML/CFT, Counter Terrorism Wing & Case Management System worth Rs 858.577m. Under the Programme for Flood Response through Reconstruction of Education Facilities, the Sindh government wanted to meet the need to reduce the dropout and increase enrollment. For this purpose, the government has planned to establish at least 500 elementary schools in the province. The Sindh Education and Literacy Department (SELD) has undertaken multiple initiatives securing development partners' assistance for the upgradation. It brought in 'innovative approaches' through technical assistance with a targeted focus on improving girls' education, girls' retention and successful transition from primary to secondary education. The project has been conceived, considering that the number of elementary schools is much lower than the primary schools in rural Sindh. Under the Operational Improvement of Federal Investigation Agency in Anti-Money Laundering & Counter Financing Terrorism (AML/CFT) project, the Ministry of Interior envisaged revamping of Counter Terrorism Wing, enabling it to act as the Federal Level Counter Terrorism Wing to enforce the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997.

It also aims at dealing with transnational & inter-provincial mandates to combat terrorism and terrorist financing, identifying criminals' networks that recruit/engage/hire Pakistani youth for violence, bringing Pakistan out of the grey list, countering national and transnational terrorism threats, enhancing overall security at national, regional and global levels.

Car overturns, 2 people die, 2 injured

LASBELA (Online): A car overturned due to high speed in Las Bela and as a result of which 2 people died and 2 were injured.

The car was going from Karachi to Quetta when it overturned due to high speed in Las Bela and after the accident the car was completely destroyed.

On information, the dead bodies and injured persons were shifted to DHQ Hospital Othal and police started the investigation to find out the reasons.

Theatre play "Social Pagal" & "The Father" presented

KARACHI (Online): On the 16th day of the ongoing Pakistan Theatre Festival in Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, the Theatre plays "Social Pagal" and "The Father" were presented in Urdu language, the writer and director of Theatre Social Pagal, was Shah Fahad, in the cast of the play.

Sarmad Aftab, Sherbanu Rahmani, Gulshan Majeed, Hassan Raza, Mishal Chaudhry, Zain Qazi, Haris Ahmad Khan and Mohammad Ghazi Abid, etc.

Drama takes viewers through the journey of six psychopaths who confront their demons in prison as they are confined to an obscure realm where life imprisonment is considered the cure for their insanity, a battle of wits ensues and theatre play "The Father" is written by Florian Zeller and directed by Zeeshan Haider.

The cast of the drama included Ghulam Mohiuddin, Abdul Rehman, Alina Gulzar, Saima, Zobi and Owais.



LARKANA: Commissioner Larkana Division, Abdul Waheed Shaikh presiding over a meeting of Divisional Task Force for the Department of Education, Health and Public Health, at his office in Larkana.